(b) The total number of sittings of the commission held so far is 217. The Commission has examined till date, 64 witnesses and marked 866 Exhibits. The inquiry is at the stage of recording of evidence.

(c) and (d). The Jai Commission Inquiry was set up with effect from 23.8.1991 with the stipulation that the Commission shall submit its report as soon as possible but not later than six months. However, the Commission's Term has been extended from time to time keeping in view the sensitivity and magnitude of the task involved.

Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund

3694. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the settlement of Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund (SPEF) account between the Food Corporation of India and the Government of Kerala is pending since 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : a) to (c). Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. has preferred Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund accounts with the Food Corporation of India upto 31.3.1993 and the same has already been passed. There are some differences for which clarification was sought. Clarification regarding transportation etc. have since been given by the Ministry on 18.10.1996 in order to expedite settlement of the claims.

English]

Fencing of Border

3695. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to resume the abandoned project of fencing along the Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the reasons for discontinuance of fencing the border; and

(c) the total area of the border that remains to be fenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). The project for fencing the Indo-Pak border has not been abandoned by the Government. Only the work on Jammu border was held up due to firing from Pakistan side. Re-starting of fencing work on Jammu Sector of International Border is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) The entire border of Punjab, except certain gaps which could not be taken up due to reverine/low lying areas, has been fenced. Out of 1035 Kms. long Rajasthan border, fencing in 720 Kms. has been completed and the work in 145 Kms. has been taken up which is scheduled to be completed by December, 1997. After completion of this stretch, fencing in 131 Kms. will be taken up and completed by December, 1998. The remaining 39 Kms. will be fenced thereafter.

Feasibility studies for ditch-cum-bund along the Rann area of Gujarat and modified type of border fencing suitable for such terrain will be carried out soon.

Alleged Corruption in Food Corporation of India

3696. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether many Members of Parliament have written letters to the Government in regard to the alleged corruption in the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the number of Members of Parliament who have complained since July 1, and the details of complaints;

(c) whether no effective action is being taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to this?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since July 1, 1996, 5 references have been received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament in regard to corruption in FCI. A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d). The Government is prompt in taking action against the corrupt officers/officials. Departmental action is initiated against the delinquent officials and deterrent punishment is awarded to those found guilty.

STATEMENT

References Received from Hon'ble Member of Parliaments in Regard to Corruption in FCI.

S.N.	Gist and Source of Complaint	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	The complaint dated 24.8.96 of the Confederation of Flour Mills of Southern State forwarded by Dr. K.P. Ramlingam, M.P. (Lok Sabha), - alleges that FCI	Information has been received from FCI. The matter is under examination.